

Are You Afraid to Die?

Unless the Lord returns first, each of us will experience death. None of us knows when or how it will happen. Will it be sooner or later? Will it be due to an accident, a disease, old age, or something else? Will it be a sudden event, or will it be a long process? Do these thoughts scare you?

When it is your time to die, and you are trapped in the wreckage of a car accident, or you are strapped to a gurney in an ambulance, or you are on a surgeon's table about to go under anesthesia, or you are lying alone in a nursing home, will you be afraid?

If you are saved in Jesus, then you have no reason to fear. Jesus came in the flesh and died on the cross...

¹⁴...that through death He might render powerless him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, ¹⁵and might free those who through fear of death were subject to slavery all their lives (Hebrews 2:14-15).

If you have lived for Jesus, then you can view death like Paul, who wrote,

For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain (Philippians 1:21).

As he faced imminent death, he wrote to Timothy,

⁶For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come. ⁷I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith; ⁸in the future there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day; and not only to me, but also to all who have loved His appearing (2 Timothy 4:6-8).

If you have hope in Jesus, then death is just a period of sleep before a glorious awakening. Notice 1 Thessalonians 4:13-14:

¹³But we do not want you to be uninformed, brethren, about those who are asleep, so that you will not grieve as do the rest who have no hope. ¹⁴For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who have fallen asleep in Jesus.

However, if you have never obeyed the Lord Jesus, then death is a terrifying prospect. What will give you comfort and peace when the time of your departure has come? Are you afraid to die?

Revelation 14:13 – And I heard a voice from heaven, saying, “Write, ‘Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on!’” “Yes,” says the Spirit, “so that they may rest from their labors, for their deeds follow with them.”